

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1232

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION WITH THE PRIME MINISTER

1. AFTER HIS BRIEFING OF NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE GROUP THIS MORNING, I MET PRIVATELY WITH RABIN FOR A HALF-HOUR DISCUSSION OF WHERE WE STAND ON KEY ISSUES ON EVE OF MY DEPARTURE FOR HOME LEAVE.

2. ON GOLAN, PRIME MINISTER'S GUT FEELING IS THAT SYRIANS WILL RENEW MANDATE ALTHOUGH HE ADMITS ISRAELIS HAVE NO FIRM INTELLIGENCE ON ASAD'S INTENTIONS. I SAID WE SHARED HIS VIEW BUT, SO FAR AS I WAS AWARE, ASAD HAD NOT INFORMED US OF HIS PLANS. RABIN FEELS THAT BECAUSE SYRIANS WILL REMAIN DEEPLY INVOLVED IN LEBANON AT LEAST FOR MONTH OF MAY, THEY WILL NOT GENERATE DUST-UP IN UNITED NATIONS IN CONJUNCTION WITH PROJECTED REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF TWENTY AS APPARENTLY WAS THEIR INTENTION TWO MONTHS AGO. PRIME MINISTER IS MILDLY WORRIED LEST OTHER ARAB STATES MAY SEEK TO IMPLEMENT ORIGINAL SYRIAN STRATEGY PRECISELY TO EMBARRASS SYRIANS BUT ACKNOWLEDGED ISRAELIS HAD NO CLEAR INDICATIONS OF ARAB INTENTIONS IN NEW YORK.

3. RE SETTLEMENT ISSUE (QADOUM) RABIN COULD TELL ME FOR MY PRIVATE INFORMATION THAT POLICY WOULD BE DEBATED AND DECIDED BY CABINET ON MAY 9. AS TO NATURE OF COMPROMISE HE WOULD TABLE FOR CABINET'S CONSIDERATION, HIS IDEAS HAD NOT YET JELLED BUT IT WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH TRADITIONAL

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SETTLEMENT POLICY FOR OCCUPIED AREAS. I REMINDED HIM OF

OUR EXCHANGE LAST WEEK ON SETTLEMENT ISSUE, AND HE AGAIN ASSURED ME HE FULLY UNDERSTOOD OUR POSITION.

4. ON TRANSITIONAL QUARTER FLAP, RABIN HAD NOTHING TO ADD TO REMARKS HE MADE TO JAVITS AND SUBSEQUENTLY REAFFIRMED TO ME PRIVATELY. SENATOR CASE HAD BRIEFED DINITZ ON POSSIBLE COMPROMISE HE CLAIMED HE HAD DISCUSSED WITH THE PRESIDENT, BUT SO FAR AS PRIME MINISTER AWARE NO DECISION HAD BEEN REACHED.

5. I BRIEFED RABIN ON MY TRAVEL PLANS, STRESSING I WOULD RETURN IN EVENT OF CRISIS, DOMESTIC OR INTERNATIONAL. PRIME MINISTER SAID HE ANTICIPATED NEITHER. AS TO HIS OWN SCHEDULE, HE WOULD REMAIN IN ISRAEL FOR FORESEEABLE FUTURE, POSSIBLY ATTENDING GENEVA MEETING OF SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL IN JULY IF DOMESTIC SITUATION SHOULD PERMIT.

6. DEPARTMENT SHOULD KNOW I HAVE APPOINTMENT WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER 1015 TOMORROW.
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